

MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2023
GERMANTOWN VILLAGE HALL CONFERENCE ROOM A

CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Chairman Myers.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Myers, Trustees Hudson, J. Miller, and Pieper.

Also present were Police Chief Snow, Fire Chief Delain, Battalion Chief Asmondy, Clerk Braunschweig.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: a motion was made by Pieper, seconded by Hudson, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2022, Regular Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Snow reported on the following:

- November was a busy month, retail thefts have increased significantly
- Department will be meeting with Walmart management in the near future to look for solutions regarding the increase in calls for service to their business
- Our village is experiencing the same issues which create demands on the police and fire departments that other communities are dealing with
- School checks and other proactive movements are up, officers have been very diligent about carrying out these duties
- Department had swearing in for three new officers: Amani Anjum and Steven Hilleman on January 4th; and Miranda Winkler on January 6th, Hilleman and Winkler just started the academy and will be graduating in May
- New Dispatcher, Hannah Weisflog, started on January 2nd, one open dispatcher position remains

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Delain reported on the following:

- Their response times for the month of November are down due to the continued increase of incidents where multiple calls are coming in at the same time
- Public education programs are on the rise
- At year's end, the department has about 300 more calls for the year than the previous year, calls for service have increased by 36% in the last 5 years
- Their department is the 2nd busiest department in the County, numbers are second to West Bend

- Asmondy advised that in November they had to put out a request for additional personnel to report to the station on 12 occasions
- Myers asked if the department could track their numbers for when multiple calls are coming in at the same time, Delain advised they already do track that information although it is not recorded in the monthly report.
- Pieper asked what percentage of their EMS calls come from senior living facilities, Delain responded it was probably around 60%, majority of their calls are for senior living and/or medical facilities
- Delain also spoke about the revenue the fire department brings in to the village with their EMS and fire calls

OVERTIME REPORTS:

Fire Department –

- Discussion regarding staffing issues, overtime, scheduling, call in procedures
- how additional personnel would affect the overtime rates
- minimum staffing levels difficult to maintain
- looked at numbers for overtime costs
- discussion whether it would be beneficial to use part time employees to fill vacancies
- advertising for open positions, recruiting procedures

Police Department -

- overtime costs will remain higher than normal until department is back to full staff
- overtime costs were over budget but with retirements and vacancies the salary budget should be within limits
- how relatable budget numbers are to what actual expenditures are for salaries and overtime costs

POLICY UPDATES FOR POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Police Department – none

Fire Department - none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

CHINA KITCHEN N112 W16560 MEQUON ROAD, CLASS B FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE, KAI YONG INC. TINA LIN, AGENT: a motion was made by Pieper, seconded by Hudson, to forward this application for a Class B Fermented Malt Beverage License for China Kitchen to Village Board with a

recommendation of approval. Snow and Delain advised there were no objections from police and fire. Motion carried unanimously.

PET FANCIER LICENSES:

1. Mary Best, W181 N12556 Fond du Lac Ave. renewal up to five dogs
2. Becky Rao, W204 N13781 Goldendale Rd., renewal up to four dogs
3. Clint and Lisa Murray, N103 W15022 Windsong Circle E, renewal up to four dogs
4. Maureen Shaughnessy, W168 N11318 Western Ave., renewal up to six dogs

A motion was made by Pieper, seconded by J. Miller, to recommend approval for the above listed Animal Fancier licenses. Snow and Delain advised there were no objections from police and fire departments. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – PURCHASE OF 3,000 GALLON WATER TENDER TRUCK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$396,662, MIDWEST FIRE: Delain stated that a request to purchase a new water tender had been included in the 2023 Capital budget. Their current water tender truck is a 1995 model and has various mechanical issues so they are looking to replace it.

Delain advised a new water tender bid was received from Midwest Fire for \$396,662.00 and came in under budgeted amount of \$500,000.00. He added the new unit would be 20 months out from time of order.

A motion was made by Pieper, seconded by Hudson, to forward this purchase request to Village Board with a recommendation of approval for a new water tender from Midwest Fire for \$396,662.00. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – IT SOLUTIONS: Snow advised this item was placed on the agenda for discussion, as the current IT company being used by the village is not meeting the needs of the police department. He noted it has been over a year since the village contracted with Capital Data and he acknowledged that there would be a transition period to work through, but the department is extremely technology dependent and it is not equipped to deal with the constant issues that come up and need to be addressed. He reminded the committee that when the department lost their Communications Supervisor, he wanted to change that position to an IT position for the police department and had received Village Board approval for that request.

Snow went over some of the technical aspects that the department relies on for day-to-day operations, noting that now when something goes wrong, the Captain or a Lieutenant may spend hours/days trying to troubleshoot problems and get solutions. Even when IT is looking into issues, someone at the department is usually acting as a go-between with the company involved. Delain agreed with Snow and stated that today

as an example, he spent almost the entire day on the phone and emailing ProPhoenix trying to determine a problem with their “IamResponding” program. He added that the problem was not yet resolved.

Discussion continued with committee members bringing up ideas/concerns with this matter, such as:

- Police and fire departments sharing an IT person
- Would there be enough to do for this to be a fulltime position
- Most businesses have an onsite IT person
- Working with support systems while trying to solve problems can be a challenge when you are not an IT person; the processes can be very time consuming and the department cannot continue to devote that kind of time without other areas of the department being affected
- Length of time needed to get a position like this approved, filled and trained
- Is this a police/fire issue or a village-wide IT issue
- Committee concerns due to public safety issues with this matter

Snow noted that the department is so dependent on computer programs - which include supervisors being able to see where the squad cars on their shift are - that officer safety is a real concern when programs are not running correctly.

A motion was made by Pieper, seconded by J. Miller, to take New Business Item C, the IT solutions need for the police department and fire department, and send to the full village board’s next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – REVIEW OF STAFFING NEEDS: Snow stated he would like to discuss staffing needs for the police department, he has concerns that the department has not been clear in the past at how they are understaffed. He said the numbers for minimum staffing have not been changed for decades and officer safety has become a concern. He stated the department has not been able to keep up with the increase in population and Calls for Service continue to rise in numbers. Snow referred to the 5-year plan and said he was requesting additional input from the committee regarding what they are looking for so he can put a comprehensive plan together.

The following suggestions were made:

- Hudson referred to the recent County referendum which failed, and he feels that if a request is made to the Village for funds for additional staffing, it should be done with the future in mind, and should include numbers which show the percentage of increase in Calls for Service vs. the percentage of increase in staffing
- Snow feels he would have the support of the community if he were able to articulate what the needs of the department are; he feels the community is very supportive of public safety in general

- Hudson wants to be able to show the needs in an incremental way and precisely state what amounts of funding will be needed during the upcoming years, and put this information together as a growth plan
- Discussion with staffing issues concerning Walmart incidents and how time consuming their calls are for the department
- J. Miller asked if the PD could charge for calls they respond to at Walmart, Delain wondered if the nuisance call ordinance could be applied
- Myers advised that Washington County has something similar in place, where a charge is assessed after 3 nuisance calls within a one-year period
- Pieper requested that some research be done to find out how other Walmart stores across the country are handling their issues with theft and if there have been solutions found that have been successful
- Hudson questioned whether the Village could impose a special tax on an establishment if they exceed a specified number of calls per month/year/etc., Myers advised the Village Attorney could research that type of action and whether or not it could be done

A motion was made by Pieper to direct Chief Snow to schedule a meeting with management at Walmart to discuss the issues at hand and to put this item “D” back on the agenda next month for further discussion. Myers advised a motion would not be needed for this agenda item and it would be placed on the agenda next month for additional discussion.

Myers indicated that this item for police department staffing needs and fire department staffing needs should be included every month on the agenda for discussion.

SECONDHAND JEWELRY DEALER RENEWAL, KESSLER’S DIAMOND CENTER, JOSEPH GEHRKE, N96 W16920 COUNTY LINE ROAD: a motion was made by Pieper, seconded by J. Miller, to forward this application to Village Board with a recommendation of approval.

Snow and Delain advised there were no objections from police and fire. Motion to approve the Secondhand Jewelry Dealer Renewal to Kessler’s carried unanimously.

SECONDHAND ARTICLE LICENSE RENEWAL, ECOATM SEAN FLAHERTY, W1990 N9855 APPLETON AVENUE: a motion was made by Pieper, seconded by J. Miller, to forward this application to Village Board with a recommendation of approval for the Secondhand Article License Renewal for EcoATM.

Snow and Delain advised there were no objections from police and fire. Motion carried unanimously.

SECONDHAND ARTICLE LICENSE RENEWAL, PILGRIM ANTIQUE MALL, BEVERLY SOLOMON, W156 N11500 PILGRIM ROAD: a motion was made by Pieper, seconded by Hudson, to forward this application to Village Board with a recommendation of approval for the Secondhand Article License Renewal for Pilgrim Antique Mall.

Snow and Delain advised there were no objections from police and fire. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: Myers advised that next month's meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Boardroom.

ADJOURNMENT: there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Recorded by,

Julie L. Barth
Secretary